

THE MUNI MEMO

OF THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE, FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE SAN FRANCISCO MUNICIPAL RAILWAY

SAFETY BANQUET SET FOR SEPTEMBER

The Ninth Annual Safety Awards Banquet will be held this year on Saturday, September 12th at the Presidio Officers' Club.

Each year, Muni drivers who have earned Safe Driver Awards for at least 15 years without an avoidable accident are fêted at the Safety Awards Banquet. This year 156 drivers will be honored.

Tickets to the Safety Banquet are available from Division Superintendents and Chairpersons. Award winners plus one guest will be admitted free. Additional tickets may be purchased for \$25 each.

No-host cocktails with music will begin at 6:00 p.m., followed by dinner at 7:00, the presentation of awards and dancing with music provided by Ben Medina. Ray Taliffaro of KGO Radio will emcee the evening.

The Safety Awards Banquet is organized by the Joint Labor Management Board, a co-operative program of Muni and the Transport Workers Union, Local 250 A, with some special private-sector funding provided by donations to the Muni Community Affairs Department Awards Fund.



Participants enjoy last year's Safety Awards Banquet

Photo: Carmen Magaña

ATTENTION OPERATORS! CALL OUT YOUR STOPS!

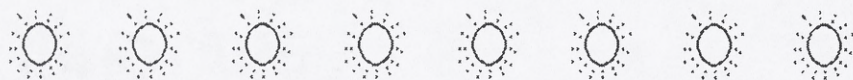
If all operators called out stops and transfer points the way Jack Lamar does on the 24 Divisadero, they'd have a much easier job.

When you ride Lamar's bus, you know where you're going, where your desired stop is and which bus to transfer to – all without ever having to ask first! Lamar has been a Muni driver since 1979 and during most of those years, he's been calling out stops and transfer points as a courtesy to his passengers – well before federal law made it a requirement for bus drivers to do so.

The Americans with Disabilities Act, signed into law by President Bush in 1990, requires that all transit operators "announce stops at least at transfer points with other fixed routes, major intersections and destination points, and intervals along a route sufficient to permit individuals with visual impairments or other disabilities to be oriented to their location." It also requires that operators "shall announce any stop on

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Management Message



Potrero Renovation Nears Completion

With all the preoccupation about Muni's budget and the city's and state's financial woes, the fact that the rehabilitation of Potrero Division is almost finished has gone largely unnoticed – except, of course, by those who work at Potrero and had to live through almost two years of construction. And it's those people I'd like to applaud.

Barnes Construction, the prime contractor on the project, began work on the \$16 million reconstruction in December 1990. Until this August, Muni employees at Potrero had to endure being moved from location to location as different phases of the the work took place while they continued the task of daily delivery of service. I thank both Maintenance and Transportation Division staff at Potrero for their patience during this arduous process, and for continuing as well as they could with their daily duties.

With the exception of a few modifications, scheduled to be implemented over the next few months, we now have a renovated Potrero Division, which will be able to handle our new 60-foot articulated trolley coaches when they arrive in 1993.

The completion of this project and especially the cooperation between Muni, UEB and the construction crews shows what we can accomplish when we join together to achieve a common goal.

Johnny Stein
General Manager

Editor's Box

Dear Reader,

Our apologies for the untimeliness of the distribution of the last few *Muni Memos*. We're sorry for any inconvenience it may have caused you and we are attempting to speed up our production process in order to bring the newsletter to you as quickly as possible. Please continue to submit stories and story ideas to us when you have them.

Sincerely,

Anne Milner
Editor

JOB FILE

Please call the Civil Service and PUC Hotlines for the most up-to-date information on job announcements. The PUC Hotline is 554-1669. The Civil Service Hotline is 557-4888.

CONGRATS!

The Division Operators of the Month for July were:

Flynn: Charles Hines III
Green: John W. Downs
Kirkland: Jose Olmedo
Potrero: Henry A. Butler
Presidio: Jeffrey Marchant
Woods: Mitchell S. Andrews

EMPLOYEE NOTICE

GIFT OF TIME

Remember you can donate your vacation and/or sick credits to City employees who are catastrophically ill. You must not be catastrophically ill yourself, must be eligible to accumulate and use sick leave and vacation credits and must retain a minimum of 64 hours of sick leave for your own personal use.

To donate, obtain a Donor's Vacation/Sick Pay Transfer form from your departmental Payroll/Personnel Office and fill it out, specifying the amount of sick leave or number of vacation credits you wish to donate and, if you know it, the special Recipient Identification Number of a co-worker who has been designated catastrophically ill.

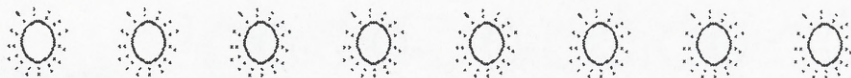
RIDESHARE WEEK

The Seventh Annual California Rideshare Week will be held from September 14th through 18th. Commuters throughout the state will be asked to pledge not to drive alone to work on a statewide "don't drive alone day," Thursday, September 17th.

In the Bay Area, September 17th is known as Beat the Back-Up Day! Commuters will pledge to try an alternative to driving alone: bus, light rail, BART, ferry, CalTrain, carpool, bicycle, walk or telecommute.

Please do your part on Beat the Back-Up Day and show that traffic congestion and air pollution in the Bay Area can be remedied with a commitment to alternative commuting.

Unsung Hero



Rose Miller

Secretary, Transportation Department
Administrative Services

BACKGROUND: Rose has an interesting background that could be material for an historical novel. Her ancestors were among the first settlers of California. One of her ancestors



Rose Miller

was a general in the Spanish army and did a special service for the Queen of Spain. To repay the kindness, the Queen gave him a land grant near Pasadena, and Rose's grandmother was born on the "rancho." It remained in the family until Rose's great grandfather, a gambling man, lost the land during a bad hand of poker. In the 1850s, Rose's paternal grandfather, a Jew, came from Alsace-Lorraine, a small area sandwiched between France and Germany. Her mother's family came from Romania in 1900, fleeing religious persecution. Rose's mother was born en route to the U.S., and her parents met in California.

Rose herself was born in SF and attended Marina Jr. High and Mission High. After high school, she worked for an insurance company, married, had a

son, Jeffrey, and moved to Texas for a time. She left her husband, returned to SF with Jeffrey and then married John, to whom she has been married for 31 years. She worked for Sutro & Co., Inc., for 26 years and then five years ago, came to Muni after studying word processing and computers at the Downtown Community College District.

FAMILY: Rose's husband, John, is a retired crane operator, who used to work for M & T Chemical. Her son, Jeffrey, 37, is a manager at Wells Fargo Bank. Rose has a grandson, Jeremy, 10, and a granddaughter, Jessica, 7.

WHY MY JOB IS IMPORTANT: Because I serve the public through my work in the Transportation Department.

WHY I LIKE WHAT I DO: I am able to use my special skills of word processing and knowledge of computers and perform a variety of different tasks.

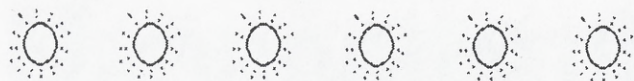
SOMETHING NOT MANY PEOPLE KNOW ABOUT ME: I left my first husband because I was a battered wife, and it was the best decision I ever made.

HOBBIES & INTERESTS: I sew and make all my own clothes.

WORDS OF WISDOM: Do the best you can, no matter what you do.

Photo: Kurt Wong

Awards



July Systemwide Operator of the Month



Photo: Gretchen Hildner

*July Muni Operator of the Month
Jaime Gordon of Presidio*

Name: Jaime Gordon
Division: Presidio
Years with Muni: 12
Background:
Birthplace: Ilo Ilo City, Philippines
Education: Bachelor of Science in Chemistry, Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering
Previous Employment: 1965-67 Chemistry instructor, Philippines; '67-'71 Bottling Supervisor, San Miguel Corp.; '71-'80 Equip. Technician, SF, (Mt. Zion Hospital)
Marital Status: Married to Cecilia
Children: Michael, 19; Jeffrey, 15; Kenneth, 10
Hobbies and Interests: Fishing, jogging, martial arts
Words of Wisdom: "Aim high and meet your goals."

July Systemwide Operator of the Month Runner-up

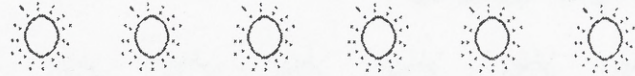
Name: Isidro Miranda Ronas
Division: Presidio
Years with Muni: 13
Background:
Birthplace: Alaminos, Philippines
Education: Alaminos High School, Philippines
 National Technical School, Los Angeles (Auto Diesel Mechanic Master Course)
Marital Status: Married to Iluminada
Children: Seven adult children – four boys and three girls
Hobbies and Interests: Attending church, walking, playing softball
Words of Wisdom: "Keep on working."



Photo: Carmen Magaña

*July Muni Operator of the Month
Isidro Miranda Ronas of Presidio*

Awards



July Maintenance Worker of the Month



Photo: Kurt Wong

*July Maintenance Worker of the Month
Conrad Cantrell of Geneva Car House*

Name: Conrad Cantrell
Position: 7379 Electric Transit Mechanic
Division: Geneva Car House
Background:
Birthplace: San Francisco
Education: Balboa High School, SF; John O'Connell Auto School, SF
Previous Employment: Boeing-Vertol
Marital Status: Single
Hobbies and Interests: Motorcycle-riding, playing basketball and tennis
Words of Wisdom: "Set goals and be persistent because you never fail until you stop trying."

Outstanding Administration and Engineering Employee of the Summer Quarter

Name: Bob Callwell
Position: 1312 Public Information Officer
Years with Muni: 10
Background:
Birthplace: Healdsburg, Calif.
Education: B.A., History, University of California, Berkeley
Previous Employment: Social Security Administration; Bechtel Power Corp.
Marital Status: Single
Hobbies & Interests: Reading, movies, classical music, transit history
Words of Wisdom: "There are many paths to enlightenment, but there is only one Railway."

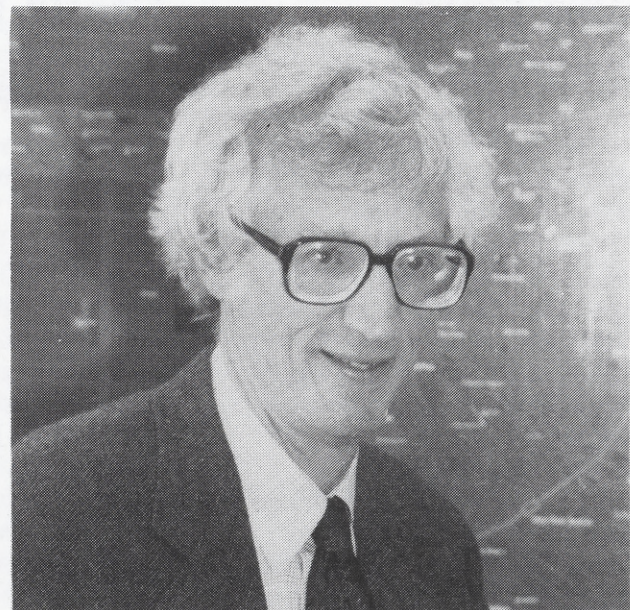
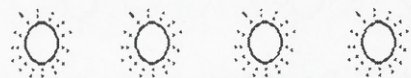


Photo: Kurt Wong

*Outstanding Administration & Engineering
Employee of the Summer Quarter
Bob Callwell of Community Affairs*

News



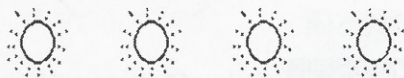
Carillo Receives APTA Award

Congratulations to Muni's Carlos Carillo who was chosen by the American Public Transit Foundation (APTF) as one of three winners of the APTF Transit Hall of Fame's Scholarship Award.

Carillo receives an annual \$2000 award for educational expenses while he obtains his Master's in Public Administration from USF.

Carillo will receive his award on Monday, October 19th, at the American Public Transit Association's Annual Meeting in San Diego.

Congratulations, Carlos!



O'Brien Wins Bell-Ringing

Congratulations to Tom O'Brien who won the 28th Annual Cable Car Bell Ringing Contest in July. It was the first time O'Brien, who has competed for a number of years, was the winner. Former winner Al Quintana came in second, and last year's winner, Famous Limbrick, walked away with third place.

Former champion Carl Payne, who left Muni to become a San Francisco police department officer, participated in the Charity Competition and won – you guessed it – First Place!



Photo: Kurt Wong

Tom O'Brien, Cable Car Bell Ringing Champion of 1992

1991 Gold Awards Begin

The 1991 Gold Awards ceremonies, delayed by staffing problems due to Early Retirement, have finally begun. Congratulations to the following Cable Car Division employees, who received their 1991 Gold Awards in July: Susan Parker, Francisco Raygoza, Arthur Luna, Samuel Walker, Daniel Burns, David Black, Alpheus Benton, James Olson, Max Kern, Timothy Boden, Robert Jasey, Joseph Nobles, Pamela Johnson, Byron Morgan, Rosemary Gilbert, Carmel J. De Bono, Lee E. Butler, Jr., Patrick Ledbetter.

Steve Dickson Is a Hero

Gripman Steve Dickson deserves a medal. Here's the story.

On May 27th at 10:35 p.m., Steve's co-worker, gripman Jimmie Wilson, was assaulted and stabbed at Powell and Market by a man against whom he had testified in 1990 and who subsequently had received a jail sentence.

Although Inspector Lonergan and off-duty Cable Car shopman Bill Wong tried to catch the assailant, he escaped.

Then on June 16th, Dickson spotted the suspect

in the assault standing outside MacDonald's on Seventh Street.

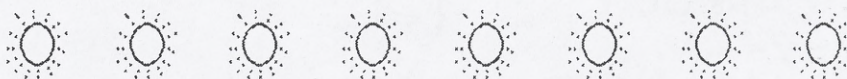
He promptly radioed Central Control and the SFPD responded, taking the suspect into custody and booking him on felony charges.

Had it not been for Steve's powers of observation and quick action, the suspect would have remained at large for a longer time.

Operator Wilson was treated at San Francisco General Trauma Center and released the night of the incident.

Bravo, Steve! Quick recovery, Jimmie!

News



Welcome Aboard!

The following new operators graduated from operator training on June 10th:

Dennis Edgar, Jr., Paul Griffin, Sanh Hoang, David Yee, Elbert Harris, Kenneth

Jomoc, Valerie Cleveland, Davey Lacap, Redeena Whitmore, Morris Daniels, Margaret Slater, Shirbie Reece Whitman, Glenda Wallace, David Gonsoulin, Paul Lau, Tonya Hill, Peter

Ramos, Randall Dea, Gregory Hill, Randy Lipscomb, Michael Wood, Ben Chan, Tracy Alexander, William Marquardt, Annette Kess, David Roberson, Darla Lee.

Rodeo Winners Change Places

Last year's Rodeo second place winner Rafael Cabrera moved up to first place this year, while last year's first place winner, Romeo Arriaza, came in second. Ron Haren came in third. Congratulations to all of you!



Rafael Cabrera, the 1992 Rodeo's First-Place Winner

Photo: Gretchen Hildner

Mark Your Ballot For



My Favorite Cop

Here is your opportunity to reward that police officer who has taken that "extra step," or exhibited that special kindness that makes you feel he or she is your friend as well as your protector.

Should your nominee, after review by a citizens' judging panel, be named "My Favorite Cop," for the month, he or she will be honored by the city at a special luncheon and receive awards, commendations and prizes. On a separate sheet of paper, please describe, in as much detail as you'd like, why you feel the officer should receive this award.

Enclose the following coupon and send by September 10th to: "My Favorite Cop" c/o SF Independent, 1201 Evans Ave., SF, CA 94124.

My nomination for "My Favorite Cop" goes to:

Badge (if known) _____
Your name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

Sponsored by the *SF Independent*, in association with the San Francisco Council of District Merchant Associations and the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce.

When Breathing the Air Inside Makes You Sick

According to federal legislation introduced by U.S. Senator George Mitchell to establish on-going research into indoor air pollution, up to 15% of the U.S. population may be suffering from "environmental illness."

Environmental illness is a heightened sensitivity to many synthetic substances commonplace indoors today such as carpets, adhesives, paints, solvents, perfumes, cosmetics, cleaning and office supplies and others. Sufferers can experience a wide range of symptoms

including allergic reactions, respiratory difficulty, disorientation, headaches, fatigue, muscle pain, gastrointestinal problems and dizziness.

In fact, people with environmental illness are now acknowledged as "disabled" by government entities including the Social Security Administration.

The Mayor's Disability Coordinator is currently formulating a policy to address "environmental illness" in San Francisco. Many sufferers report that riding on Muni or BART, for example, is particularly difficult

because of the scented products both passengers and operators wear in a closed environment.

Although it is difficult to ask the public or Muni drivers to stop wearing perfume or aftershave, please be aware that such products may in fact be making people sick. Refraining from using such products or minimizing their use would be a courtesy to those passengers or co-workers affected by environmental illness.

For information on environmental illness, please call the Environmental Health Network at 415-541-5075.

Riders Speak

Dear Muni,

I would like to report an incident on the L Taraval in which my safety and well-being were jeopardized.

An older man sat down next to me. I work with senior citizens, so I respect my elders, and I cleared my things from the seat. When the man sat down, he stared at me, and I could smell liquor. His smell was repulsive, so I got up and moved. He followed and winked at me. Then the driver called me to tell me that he had been watching the whole scene. He told me to stay up front, saying that after

your line. Remember, it's not only a courtesy to your passengers, it's a federal law. When you don't call out the stops, you are breaking the law outlined under the "Americans with Disabilities Act" and will be subject to disciplinary action.

8:30 PM, a passenger can request a stop at any corner on the route. I commend driver number 972.

By the way, the driver is black, I am white, and the old man was white. This occurrence reinforced my decision to be non-prejudiced.

Marisol Ariola
San Francisco

Stops *Cont. from pg. 1*

request of an individual with a disability."

Although the legislation is geared to help low-vision and blind passengers, everybody appreciates it when a driver calls out stops. Tourists don't have to wonder where they are in a strange city and operators don't have to remember which passenger has requested a specific stop, because the driver is calling out all the major destinations and transfer points on that particular line.

So follow Lamar's example. Make your job easier and give your passengers a more comfortable and secure ride.

Please call out transfer points and major stops on

Credits

The *Muni Memo* is published by the Community Affairs Department of Muni. Contributions and comments may be addressed to the *Muni Memo*, Room 238, 949 Presidio Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94115, telephone 923-6162.

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Desktop Layout:
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Printing:
PUC Reproduction